

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) An elongated device for medical procedures comprising a superelastic member having a first section with a first set of properties and an adjacent second section having a second set of properties which have been altered from the first set of properties and further alloyed with an easily diffusable element, wherein the superelastic member comprises a nickel-titanium alloy.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) The elongated device of claim 7, wherein the easily diffusable element is selected from the group consisting of oxygen, hydrogen, carbon and nitrogen.

11-19. (Canceled)

20. (New) The elongated device of claim 10, wherein the easily diffusable element is hydrogen.

21. (New) The elongated device of claim 10, wherein the easily diffusable element is oxygen.

22. (New) The elongated device of claim 7, wherein the altered properties comprise reduced superelasticity.

23. (New) The elongated device of claim 7, wherein the superelastic member has a distal end comprising at least one altered property.

24. (New) The elongated device of claim 23, wherein the section comprising at least one altered property is at least about 3 cm in length.

25. (New) The elongated device of claim 23, wherein the at least one altered property comprises reduced superelasticity.

26. (New) The elongated device of claim 25, wherein the section comprising at least one altered property is at least about 3 cm in length.